



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

KIRK T. STEUDLE
DIRECTOR

April 6, 2011

Mr. John Niemela, Director
County Road Association of Michigan
P.O. Box 12067
Lansing, Michigan 48901-2067

Ms. Summer Minnick, Director of State Affairs
Michigan Municipal League
208 North Capitol Avenue, 1st Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48933-1354

RE: Transition to 2012 Standard Specifications for Construction

Dear Mr. Niemela and Ms. Minnick:

The Michigan Department of Transportation has announced the preliminary release of the "2012 *Standard Specifications for Construction*." These new specifications, including Divisions 2 through 9, have been electronically posted for public review and distribution at the following website:

<http://mdotwas1.mdot.state.mi.us/public/specbook/2012>

Division 1 will be posted and available for review in the next few weeks.

Pay items in the preliminary 2012 Pay Item Code Book, not including Division 1 items, in both alpha and numeric order, are available at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_2012_Pay_Item_Code_Alpha_348267_7.pdf

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_2012_Pay_Item_Code_Numeric_348268_7.pdf

The Michigan Electronic Resources Library (MERL) database will be updated by mid April 2011, and will be made available for public use at that time.

A table for identification of Frequently Used Special Provisions applicable for use with the 2012 specifications is available at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_2012_FUSP_Changes_List_349638_7.pdf

Changes from the 2003 version are relatively minor, and we would expect that transition to the new book would not take a significant effort. Local Agency Programs staff, the local agencies, and their consultants will need to develop familiarity with the new book. A summary of the changes and modifications between the two specification books, including Division 1, is available at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_2012_Standard_Specifications_for_Construction_Synopsis_of_Changes_349642_7.pdf

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Ms. Summer Minnick
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Implementation of the "2012 Standard Specifications for Construction" for trunkline projects will begin with projects in the October 7, 2011 letting. Implementation for local agency projects will begin with the November 4, 2011, bid letting. MDOT would like to transition as soon as possible in order to limit the timeframe where two editions of specifications are used. Therefore, MDOT Local Agency Programs anticipates that all projects turned in for a grade inspection after Friday, June 24, 2011, will be designed using the "2012 Standard Specifications for Construction." Using the June 24, 2011, date will put the project on schedule for the November 4, 2011, letting.

MDOT will consider exemption requests made for unique projects that require the continued use of the "2003 Standard Specifications for Construction." Local agencies should submit requests for project which requiring exemptions to the LAP staff engineer by May 15, 2011. The requests must indicate the percent the design is complete, whether the design is being done as a plan or log project, and the anticipated project letting date, as well as justifications for the exemption request. Our intent is to keep the number of exemptions to a minimum, with those exempted projects let in the first quarter of FY 2012.

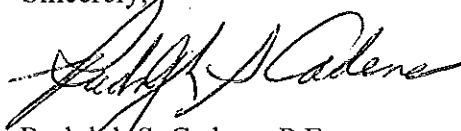
Please be advised that the average unit prices will not be reported for the 2003 specifications after October 2011. Also, the frequently used special provisions, supplemental specifications, and standard plans for the "2003 Standard Specifications for Construction" will not be updated after October 2011. These ancillary design elements being out of date may lead to inconsistencies which will need to be resolved by the local agency's staff.

Please provide your members with this information, and if you have agencies which have holdover projects, please have them contact the appropriate Local Agency Programs unit supervisor list below:

Keith Cooper, cooperk@michigan.gov, (517) 373-2346 (Bridge projects)
Bruce Kadzban, kadzbanb@michigan.gov, (517) 335-2229 (Rural and Enhancement projects)
Sam Guerrazzi, guerrazzis@michigan.gov, (517) 373-0737 (Urban projects)

If you have any further questions regarding this request please contact me, at (517) 335-2233.

Sincerely,



Rudolph S. Cadena, P.E.
Local Agency Programs Engineer
Local Agency Programs

cc:	M. Van Port Fleet	B. Wieferich
	L. Strzalka	K. Cooper
	B. Kadzban	S. Guerazzi
	M. Harrison	G. Puente